

From: [Miller, Garyg](#)
To: [Scott Jones](#)
Cc: [Jackson Hill](#)
Subject: RE: Important SJRWP Updates
Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 12:58:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

OK, just left message with him – thanks Scott

Gary Miller
EPA Remedial Project Manager
214-665-8318
miller.garyg@epa.gov

From: Scott Jones [mailto:sjones@galvbay.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 11:44 AM
To: Miller, Garyg; 'Jacquelyn Young'
Subject: RE: Important SJRWP Updates

Hi Gary-
Thanks to you and Jackie for the info on both cap inspections and barges...

Regarding the barge fleet permitting issue, I just got off the phone with a Mr. Hernandez of Vessel Traffic Control of the Coast Guard Houston-Galveston Sector to see if I could confirm what Jackie heard from Mr. Reno (his title is Chief Reno, by the way). As it turns out, the jurisdiction to which Chief Reno was referring was only to actual vessel traffic control, which does end at the I-10 bridge.

Based on what he said, I think they may have permitting authority for the barge fleet operations in question. Mr. Hernandez referred me to Lieutenant Commander Navin Griffin of Coast Guard Waterways Management. I just left him a message asking if they are involved. Can you call Mr. Griffin at 281-464-4736 and ask him if they are involved in the permitting? Perhaps this can help answer Jackie's questions. I am curious as well.

Thanks-
Scott

Scott A. Jones
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From: Miller, Garyg [<mailto:Miller.Garyg@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 10:46 AM
To: Jacquelyn Young
Cc: sjones@galvbay.org
Subject: RE: Important SJRWP Updates

Jackie,

Yes, the PRPs did an inspection on Monday to check the cap condition & the no damage was seen. I'm attaching some pictures taken that day. The maximum level at Sheldon was 4.7 feet, much less than the 11 foot level that occurred in May this year. FYI, the EPA dive team will be doing an underwater cap inspection in December – still working on setting dates; it will include a visual inspection/photo documentation (depending on visibility) and a side-scan sonar check.

Thanks,

Gary Miller
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From: Jacquelyn Young [<mailto:jeyoung@texanstogogether.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 10:31 AM
To: Miller, Garyg
Cc: sjones@galvbay.org
Subject: Re: Important SJRWP Updates

Gary,

I don't have any additional information, I wish I did! I've asked community members to inquire about what agencies the permit applications were made to. Keep you posted. I received a couple of messages yesterday that a crew was on the Pits- perhaps surveying for damage after the rain? Do you have an update on this?

Thank you,
Jackie

On Tue, Oct 27, 2015 at 10:44 AM, Miller, Garyg <Miller.Garyg@epa.gov> wrote:

Jackie,

I don't have any more information than what you described below – I am interested in the permit application you mentioned below; does the person who mentioned the permit have any information on what agency the permit application was made too?

Thanks

Gary Miller
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From: Jacquelyn Young [mailto:jeyoung@texanstogether.org]
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Miller, Garyg
Cc: sjones@galvbay.org
Subject: Important SJRWP Updates

Gary,

Community members are extremely concerned about barge expansions taking place adjacent to the Waste Pits and north of the Site. I've attempted to collect detailed information but I have not been successful. It seems there is a disconnect in the understanding of which agency has authority north of the i10 bridge. I'm hoping that with the information I do have, you can help.

A community member informed me that a barge company near the Pits has applied for a permit to expand their operations. From what I've been told, the permit would allow them to store 100 barges. They are currently allowed to store up to 30 barges. The property owner is Cheryl K Marine. See attached photos- The photos show the gates of the property adjacent to the Waste Pits. This property (San Jacinto River Fleet) is said to be a division of Cheryl K Marine. One of the photos shows details for the supposed parent company, which is based just south of the Pits.

Additionally, I've been informed that a business located on Highland Shores has applied for a permit to store barges. I believe the company is Cypress Coast at 2730 Highland Shores Dr Highlands, Texas 77562.

Stuart Mueller with Harris County Pollution Control tried to help me find the permits but we weren't able to find anything. A contact with the Army Corps says it is the Coast Guard's jurisdiction. A Mr. Reno with the Coast Guard says their jurisdiction ends at the i10 bridge and that companies can park/store as many barges as there are room for, as long as they do so in a safe way.

This is concerning. More barges equal an increased risk of impacts at the Waste Pits. As you have seen in a few short years, barge operations are expanding rapidly near the Waste Pits and they don't appear to be slowing down any time soon.

Can you please provide me with feedback that will help me understand this issue/process?

Thank you,
Jackie Young